

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
/104 W

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O 070255Z MAR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9896
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USLO PEKING
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 00794

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, RH
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SUBJECT: RHODESIA: UN DEVELOPMENTS MARCH 6

1. PRIOR TO SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION MARCH 6
(SEPTEL) BRITISH ATTEMPTED (IN WHAT MISSION
BELIEVES WAS MISGUIDED EFFORT) TO PERSUADE
AFRICANS TO SUPPORT IDEA OF ADJOURNMENT
OF DEBATE AFTER FIRST DAY'S SPEAKERS HAD BEEN

HEARD, ON BASIS OF STATEMENT AMB RICHARD WOULD MAKE AT CLOSE OF MEETING. STATEMENT WOULD HAVE SAID SALISBURY AGREEMENT FELL SHORT OF REQUIREMENT OF ACCEPTANCE BY ALL PEOPLE OF RHODESIA AND THUS WAS NO SETTLEMENT, AND WOULD HAVE SOUGHT ADJOURNMENT PENDING RESULTS OF VANCE/OWEN MEETING. RICHARD HAD SUGGESTED TO MCHENRY THAT THIS APPROACH HAD BEEN AGREED TO IN VANCE/OWEN TELEPHONE CALLS. AFTER CHECKING WITH SECRETARY, MCHENRY INFORMED RICHARD THAT OUR READING OF VANCE/OWEN DISCUSSION DIFFERED. WE BELIEVED AFRICANS WOULD WELCOME FIRST PART OF UK STATEMENT BUT WOULD REJECT ADJOURNMENT. RICHARD NEVERTHELESS PROCEEDED. NIGERIA (HARRIMAN), GABON AND UPPER VOLTA (CURRENT AFRICAN GROUP CHAIRMAN) AGREED TO UK PROPOSAL BUT TANZANIA (SALIM) OBJECTED TO ADJOURNMENT. RICHARD THEREFORE ANNOUNCED NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON MARCH 7.

2. ALSO PRIOR TO MARCH 6 SESSION, AMB MCHENRY SPOKE WITH AMBASSADORS OF KUWAIT AND INDIA AND DEPUTY PERMREP LOPEZ OF VENEZUELA. MCHENRY STRESSED NECESSITY OF ASSURING THAT TONE OF DEBATE DID NOT INFLAME ISSUE. REGARDING AN APPEARANCE BEFORE THE COUNCIL BY BISHOP MUZOREWA, MCHENRY CONFIDENTIAL

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SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD LOSE FACE AND MUZOREWA BE MADE A MARTYR IF HE WAS REFUSED PERMISSION TO SPEAK. REFUSAL WOULD ALSO DRIVE THE BISHOP DEEPER INTO SMITH'S ARMS. MCHENRY NOTED THAT THE AFRICANS, PARTICULARLY SALIM, WOULD APPRECIATE HELP FROM OTHER NON-ALIGNED COUNCIL MEMBERS ON THIS POINT. MISSION'S READING OF CURRENT CLIMATE IS THAT, WHILE MANY AFRICANS PRIVATELY AGREE WITH MCHENRY LOGIS, IT WILL STILL NOT BE EASY TO GAIN OFFICIAL AFRICAN GROUP ACQUIESCENCE.

3. COUNCIL HAS ALSO RECEIVED CABLE FROM SMITH REGIME ASKING FOR OPPORTUNITY FOR "REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATION" TO PARTICIPATE UNDER ART 32. FOLLOWING PRECEDENT, MESSAGE HAS BEEN CIRCULATED INFORMALLY TO COUNCIL MEMBERS BUT NOT ACKNOWLEDGED TO SALISBURY. YOUNG

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